

ANSWER

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and Robert W. Golledge, Jr. (jointly "the Department") hereby answer plaintiffs' complaint as follows:

First unnumbered paragraph: This paragraph is merely an introduction by plaintiffs of their action and includes legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Commonwealth denies any and all allegations in this paragraph.

- 1. Paragraph 1 includes legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Department denies any and all allegations in this paragraph.
- 2. Paragraph 2 includes legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Department denies any and all allegations in this paragraph, except to state that the Department is located in Massachusetts.

- 3. Whether B&M is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States Surface

 Transportation Board ("STB") is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. The

 Department admits the other allegations in paragraph 3.
- 4. Whether STR is subject to the jurisdiction of the STB is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. The Department admits the other allegations in paragraph 4.
 - 5. The Department admits the allegations in paragraph 5.
 - 6. The Department admits the allegations in paragraph 6.
- 7. The Department states that it is without sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in paragraph 7.
 - 8. The Department admits the allegations in paragraph 8.
- 9. Paragraph 9 includes legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Department denies any and all allegations in this paragraph.
- 10. Paragraph 10 is merely an introduction by plaintiffs of their action and includes legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Department denies any and all allegations in this paragraph.
- 11. The Department states that it is without sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in paragraph 11.
- 12. The Department states that it is without sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in paragraph 12.
- 13. The Department states that the letter referred to in paragraph 13 speaks for itself.

 Paragraph 13 includes legal conclusions to which no response is required.

- 14. The Department states that it is without sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in paragraph 14.
- 15. The Department states that it is without sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in the second sentence in paragraph 15.
 - 16. Paragraph 16 requires no response.
- 17. Paragraph 17 consists of a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent that a response is required, the Department denies any and all allegations in this paragraph.
- 18. The first sentence of paragraph 18 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. The statutory language quoted speaks for itself.
 - 19. The statutory language quoted speaks for itself.
 - 20. The statutory language quoted speaks for itself.
 - 21. Paragraph 21 consists of a legal conclusion to which no response is required.
 - 22. The Department denies the allegations in paragraph 22.
 - 23. The Department denies the allegations in paragraph 23.
 - 24. The Department denies the allegations in paragraph 24.
 - 25. Paragraph 25 requires no response.
 - 26. Paragraph 26 includes legal conclusions to which no response is required.
 - 27. The statutory language quoted in paragraph 27 speaks for itself.
 - 28. Paragraph 28 includes legal conclusions to which no response is required.
- 29. The letter speaks for itself. The regulatory language quoted speaks for itelf. The Department denies the remaining allegations in paragraph 29.

- 30. The Department denies the allegations in paragraph 30.
- 31. Paragraph 31 requires no response.
- 32. Paragraph 32 includes legal conclusions to which no response is required.
- 33. The Department states that it is without sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in paragraph 33.
 - 34. The Department denies the allegations in paragraph 34.
 - 35. The Department denies the allegations in paragraph 35.

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Failure to State a Claim

Plaintiffs' complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Standing

To the extent any plaintiff lacks standing with respect to any claim, that claim should be dismissed.

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

<u>Ripeness</u>

To the extent any claim is not ripe for adjudication, that claim should be dismissed.

REQUEST FOR RELIEF

Based upon these answers and affirmative defenses, the Department respectfully request that the Court enter a judgment as follows:

(a) Dismissing the plaintiffs' complaint in its entirety, on the merits, and with prejudice;

- (b) Denying the plaintiffs' requests for damages and declaratory and injunctive relief in their entirety; and
- (c) Awarding such other and further relief as the Court may find to be just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

By its attorneys,

Dated: June 3, 2003

Nora J. Chorover, BBO #547352

Assistant Attorney General

Environmental Protection Division One Ashburton Place, 18th Floor

Boston, MA 02108 (617) 727-2200

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of this Answer was sent by first class mail on June 3, 2005 to:

Robert B. Culliford, Esq. Katerhine E. Potter, Esq. Boston & Maine Corporation Springfield Terminal Railway Company Iron Horse Park No. Billerica, MA 01862

Eric L. Hirschhorn Winston & Strawn LLP 1400 L Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20005

May Mora J. Chorover